



Most Rev Anthony Randazzo
Bishop of Broken Bay

Message for BBNeighbourhoods
27 October 2020

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Tomorrow, Wednesday 28 October, marks the centenary of the birth of Bishop Patrick Murphy, the First Bishop of Broken Bay.

Bishop Murphy was born at Eastwood. He attended St Kevin's Catholic Primary School for his early education, completing his schooling at St Patrick's Christian Brothers College, Strathfield. After high school, he worked for six months in the Commonwealth Bank.

Patrick Murphy undertook studies at St Columba's Seminary Springwood from 1937 to 1940 and then at St Patrick's College, Manly, from 1941 to 1944. He was ordained a priest on 22 July 1944 in St Mary's Cathedral Sydney. On 20 December 1976, after 32 years of priestly ministry, academic studies, and teaching, he was named a bishop by Pope Paul VI and consecrated on 22 January 1977. Bishop Murphy was appointed as an Auxiliary Bishop to the Archbishop of Sydney, Cardinal James Freeman. On 8 April 1986, Pope John Paul II nominated him as the Bishop of the newly established Diocese of Broken Bay. He was installed on 28 May 1986.

It has been said that during his episcopate, Bishop Murphy maintained a style of hard-work, lean administration, and firm leadership, right through to his retirement on 9 July 1996. He lived quietly until his death at the age of 86 on 18 March 2007.

I commend Bishop Murphy to your prayers, as we give thanks to God for his life and ministry as priest and bishop.

Over the past year since my installation as the Fourth Bishop of Broken Bay I have written a short message to you each week in BBNeighbourhoods. I have found it to be a very useful way to keep in touch, especially during the periods of restricted movement and physical distancing.

I am grateful for the numerous people throughout the diocese who have either spoken to me personally or written to me expressing their gratitude for these short messages, which communicate something of the vox Episcopi, "the voice of the bishop".

Beginning in November, I have decided that I will invite different members of our community of the Church around Broken Bay to join me in BBNeighbourhoods. I hope that it will be one way to give expression to the vox Populi, "the voice of the people". This will occur on alternate weeks to my message.

It is not meant to be a political manifesto, nor a sermon, or a homily on the Sunday Scripture readings. What I am hoping to do is highlight the unique and Spirit-filled perspective in our community as you live out your baptismal vocation as a young / senior / married / single /

religious / priestly / diaconal / professional person. I am confident that by listening respectfully to the voices from around our community, we might also listen and discern what the Spirit is saying to us as the community of the Church of Broken Bay.

Please join with me in praying that the Holy Spirit will move the hearts, minds, and lives of all people in our community. Pray also for spiritual insight based on your life and relationship with God. I trust that your unique experience and perspective will speak to others and contribute to the shared wisdom in our Church community and beyond.

Peace be with you,

+Anthony